

MEDIA RELEASE

Zurich and Lausanne, 10 November 2011



Going, going...!

A new book on
«The Swiss Art Market: From the 19th Century to Today»

Nowadays Switzerland plays a major role in the international market for art and cultural property, thanks to a number of favourable conditions – neutrality, stability, taxation – that have helped this country to establish a reputation as a financial hub. For many years, however, the history of the art market in Switzerland remained largely unexplored. A new publication by the Swiss Institute for Art Research (SIK-ISEA) will now fill that gap.

The art market phenomenon is examined in this book from a variety of different angles, focussing in turn on history, including the history of art and collections, the economy, sociological aspects, and national and international law. With the fresh perspectives generated by its eighteen contributions, this work describes the first movers in the 19th-century art business, the art trade that took off in the early 20th century, then the burgeoning of the market in art and cultural property during the 1950s driven by the arrival of the big auction houses and art fairs, and finally globalisation in the early 21st century. The economic importance of the sector is highlighted within an international comparison, as is the social profile of the key players. This volume takes into account not only traditional art forms such as sculpture, but also new media like web art, and also objects of ethno-archaeological value, where trading is framed by a set of national and international laws. It also illustrates how closely economic and artistic aspects are interwoven, challenging the idea of the autonomous artist whose output is conditioned by the art lover and the art dealer, each in turn vulnerable to political and social crises.

This is the 7th volume in the «outlines» series, and it reflects the proceedings of a symposium on the art market organised jointly in 2009 by the SIK-ISEA's *Antenne romande* and the History Department at the University of Lausanne.

The work

Le marché de l'art en Suisse. Du XIX^e siècle à nos jours, proceedings of a symposium with the same title, SIK-ISEA, 6/7 November 2009 («outlines», vol. 7), eds. Paul-André Jaccard and Sébastien Guex, Zurich/Lausanne: SIK-ISEA, 2011. Preface: Paul-André Jaccard and Sébastien Guex. Contributions by **Danielle Buysens**: *Les expositions-loterias de la Société des amis des beaux-arts de Genève (1822–1830). Analyse d'un échec*. **Vincent Chenal**: *Marché de l'art et collectionnisme à Genève dans la première moitié du XIX^e siècle*. **Philippe Clerc**: *Christie's et Sotheby's en Suisse. Problématiques dans la première décennie du XX^e siècle, entre crises et concurrence*. **Elisabeth Eggimann Gerber**: *Die Galerien Bollag und Aktuaryus. Zürichs Kunstangebot der 1920er Jahre*. **Marc Fehlmann**: *Gutekunst und Klipstein, Klipstein und Kornfeld, Galerie Kornfeld in Bern*. **Nicolas Galley**: *Entre réseaux et globalisation. Etat des lieux du marché primaire en Suisse*. **Michael Gautier**: *Ein schweizerisches Profil? Herkunft und Biografien von Galeristen im Vergleich*. **Ilona Genoni Dall**: *Art Basel. Geschichte und Geschichten*. **Andrea Glauser**: *Markterfolg und künstlerische Identität. Untersuchungen zum Kunstfeld der Gegenwart*. **Sébastien Guex**: *Le marché suisse de l'art au XX^e siècle (1886–2008). Survol chiffré et comparaison internationale*. **Eric Huysecom**: *Out of Africa. Pillage et valorisation des objets archéologiques africains*. **Paul-André Jaccard**: *La Galerie Moos à Genève et Hodler. La quête d'un monopole*. **Rudolf Koella**: *Der Kunstsalon Wolfsberg. Die erste Galerie für moderne Kunst in Zürich*. **Chantal Lafontant Vallotton**: *La vente de la collection d'Heinrich Angst en 1909. Enchères publiques et internationalisation du marché des antiquités*. **Rachel Mader**: *Netzkunst verkaufen. Preispolitik, Werkbegriff und künstlerische Autonomie im Nischenmarkt*. **Marc-André Renold**: *Les litiges en matière de restitution de biens culturels. Exemples récents de résolutions alternatives*. **Esther Tisa Francini**: *Der Kunstmarkt in der Zwischenkriegszeit. Deutsche Sammler, Händler und Künstler in der Schweiz*. **Marc Weber**: *Der schweizerische Kunsthandel und seine rechtlichen Rahmenbedingungen*.

23 x 16 cm, 376 pages, 27 black-&-white illustrations and 64 colour plates, 11 charts, paperbound, CHF 48.– ISBN 978-3-908196-79-2, ISSN 1660-8712

Order publication

**Book launch venue**

The book will be launched on 24 November 2011, at 6 pm, at the Swiss Institute for Art Research (SIK-ISEA), Zollikerstrasse 32 (near Kreuzplatz), CH-8032 Zurich, following the ceremony for the art history research award to be presented by the Alfred Richterich Foundation and the Swiss Association of Art Historians.

Please confirm your attendance by 18 November 2011 by e-mail to sik@sik-isea.ch, or by fax to +41 44 381 52 50.

Places are limited.

Contacts for information and review copies

Sandra Ruff, Head of Communication, SIK-ISEA, Zollikerstrasse 32, Postbox 1124, CH-8032 Zurich
www.sik-isea.ch, sandra.ruff@sik-isea.ch, tel. +41 44 388 51 36

Paul-André Jaccard, Antenne romande de SIK-ISEA, Université de Lausanne, Anthropole,
CH-1015 Lausanne, paul-andre.jaccard@sik-isea.ch, tel. +41 21 692 30 96